

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee●com

Courson faces new charges including soliciting a minor

By Sean Rossman;, Democrat staff writer; 1:15 a.m. EST February 25, 2014



(Photo: Jefferson County Jail)

David Courson, the man facing an aggravated manslaughter charge in connection with the death of his 6-year-old daughter, is now facing more felony charges.

The charges stem from evidence state investigators discovered during their investigation of the death of Rebecca Courson, who was killed when a 13-year-old girl — with Courson, 38, as a passenger — backed over her with Courson's 2011 Nissan Frontier on Jan. 20 at the family's home.

Courson was arrested that night and has been in jail since.

The prosecutor in this case, Assistant State Attorney John Wilson, said investigators found a cellphone in Courson's truck during a followup investigation.

The phone, Wilson said, contained text messages between Courson and a minor that "led us to believe that there was sexual contact between Mr. Courson and owner of the phone."

After an interview with the minor, they discovered there had been inappropriate contact between the two, Wilson said.

Courson was charged Feb. 17 with solicitation of a minor by computer device and lewd or lascivious battery in addition to the charges he faces related to his daughter, according to Wilson.

At a Monday hearing, Courson's attorney, Tim Jansen, said his client denies the accusations.

Courson has been held in the Jefferson County Jail following his arrest Jan. 20 when he was placed under a \$350,000 bond and ordered to have no contact with minors, including his own children.

Jansen's motion to reduce bond was denied Monday, he said. Courson was ordered held without bond for the solicitation of a minor charge Monday, Jansen said.

Jansen said he is considering appealing that decision.

An arraignment is set for March 3.

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